

## Chimes part of imaging plan

By Jonathan King  
Chief Writer

Those of you who are faithful students and come to each and every class you have scheduled, have had the privilege seeing the Clock Tower grow and be completed since the beginning of the semester. The other 95 percent of you who just found out you had a Lit class and wondered what that thing out back is, there's a story here.

Shelton has been under somewhat of a facelift in the last year, celebrating the 50-year anniversary of the school (the celebration is formally known as the Jubilee). The Chimes are the latest addition to a new and improved Shelton State campus.

Last spring and throughout the past year, Shelton has added trees to its front Lawn extending all the way to the gates, and has made a successful effort to make the facilities more attractive. The addition of a Clock Tower to the back lawn gives Shelton

State somewhat of a monument for the school's identity.

"We are extremely excited to see this symbol of Shelton State's reverence and respect for the past and hopefulness for the future come to fruition," says Shelton State President Rick Rogers. "The dedication ceremony in April will cap off our Jubilee celebration and will focus on 'Our Students-Our Future.' It will serve as a symbol of our dedication to our students and the future of West Alabama."

The Shelton State Clock Tower, as it will be called, has four steel legs covered by brick, and it reaches 50 feet into the sky. It is made with the same material and design as the rest of the college, so as to match the school. The Tower contains 24 cast bronze bells that will be able to play not only traditional bell rings such as clock chime melodies and hourly variation strikes, but also customized melodies and hymns. It has four back-lit clock dials, each six feet in diameter.



Photo by Amy P. Oswalt

The Shelton State Clock Tower is located on the school's back lawn. It will be dedicated on April 24.

See **Chimes**, Page 3

## Wellness Center runs 'great' fair

By Charla Steele  
Staff Writer

Students who missed Shelton State's health fair, missed lots of fun, food and information.

The health fair was held April 2 in the Wellness Center where 40 vendors were gathered to provide information to students about various health issues. The vendors passed out everything from pamphlets to massages.

"It's to educate and motivate the students and the community on the importance of health and fitness. This is done in such a way to motivate people to improve their quality of life," said Dr. Milady Murphy, director of the Wellness Center as well as the health fair.

The health fair took place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Some of the vendors participating were The Athlete's Foot, CHOM, Manna Grocery and the Student Dietetic Association.

The Student Dietetic Association student representative, Fallon Goins, was one of the vendors at the health fair.

She said sometimes showing people how much fat is in food could make a difference.

"The dietetic association promotes healthy eating and the fat samples we show help people see how much fat is really in food."

Among the vendors was

See **Fair**, Page 3

## Childress regales students and public with tales

From Staff Reports

Alabama author and friend of movie stars Mark Childress seemed to judge his two different audiences at the college perfectly on Monday, March 24.

To the hundreds of students who listened to him for an hour in the morning, the writer of *Crazy in Alabama* offered a primer on what it takes to be a writer nowadays. Besides talent and the willingness to work, Childress cited a willingness to anger those you love by writing about them. There is a fortunate catch though, he noted. "If you write something unflattering, no one ever thinks you're writing about them."

Childress's evening address to a smaller but enthusiastic audience was titled "Be Careful What You Wish For." The writer chronicled several incidents that he wrote about which later became



Photo by Courier Staff

Author Mark Childress signed copies of his books at every appearance on campus.

reality, including the burning of his grandparents' home outside Monroeville and the sweeping away of his car in a flood.

Childress told interesting tales about

filming the movie *Crazy in Alabama* with movie stars Antonio Banderas and Melanie Griffith.

He was given complete control of the screenplay from Banderas, who was a first-time director of the project. Childress said this kind of input is very unusual for a writer.

He also served as unofficial interpreter of Southern English dialects, especially with the young boy from North Alabama who played a central role in the movie. "Antonio couldn't understand a word he said," Childress reported.

Though the movie was not a runaway hit in America, Childress said it was huge in Europe where Banderas and Griffith are considered demi-gods.

Childress said he spent a whole day with Banderas on the streets of Monroeville with no one recognizing the star. "Banderas just loved that," he said.

### Inside The Courier



- Phi Theta Kappa inductees
- Keep Looking Up!
- Lady Bucs reach midway
- 8 Mile review
- Buccaneer soccer





## Off the Shelf...

By Glen Johnson

**S**cott Turow's *Reversible Errors* finds corporate lawyer Arthur Raven taking on the unusual, for him at least, case of death row inmate and triple murderer Rommy "Squirrel" Gandolph.

Raven's already difficult task is made even more challenging by the fact that a lot of powerful people want to see Squirrel's execution go through as planned, and not necessarily because of his murder convictions.

Martin Cruz Smith, author of *Gorky Park* and *Havana Bay* follows up on these two triumphs with his latest novel: *December 6*. And with a title like that, how can you lose? Harry Niles may be the last unattached American left in Tokyo in early December 1941.

With the subtlety of a zen master and the intensity of a kabuki performer, Cruz follows Niles's frustrating attempt to do something, anything to halt the upcoming events of December 7.

It's October 1886, a great time to be a comfy and cushy bloated English piano tuner like Edgar Drake, the lead character in Daniel Mason's book *The Piano Tuner*.

Unfortunately, duty to Queen and country call and our Edgar is sent on his own, without his wife, halfway around the world to some of England's furthest flung outposts in the densest jungle portions of Burma.

His mission is to repair the piano of an obscure army surgeon-major who is keeping the peace among the generally warring local potentates through a clever mixture of poetry, medicine, and music.

No mention, alas, of aroma therapy.

## Phi Theta Kappa inducts new members

By Maigen Green  
PTK Public Relations

On March 23, Phi Theta Kappa held its spring semester induction.

Thirty-two new members were inducted. Having a 3.5 GPA or higher in at least twelve semester hours is the prerequisite for Phi Theta Kappa inductees, making these people some of the top students at Shelton State.

Camille Cochrane, dean of instruction, spoke on the Phi Theta Kappa honors topic, "Directions of Health: Choices in the Maze."

Dean Cochrane addressed the two choices we have in the subject of health. She brought to our awareness the aspects of health, which we must all take into consideration.

"First, as the individuals, we can choose to live healthy lives," said Cochrane.

"Your second choice: you have to choose how much responsibility you think you have for the health lifestyle for ourselves, but as a fortunate group, we should help those in need of adequate health care."

Phi Theta Kappa would



Photo courtesy of Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa officers are (L-R) D.J. Krolly, Amy Brown, Jennifer Taylor, Shanna Martin, Maigen Green and Kaylene Peters.

like to thank Camille Cochrane for her speech and congratulate all the new members.

New and current members alike are encouraged to attend weekly meetings Tuesday at 5 p.m. in room 2413.

Also look for updates and

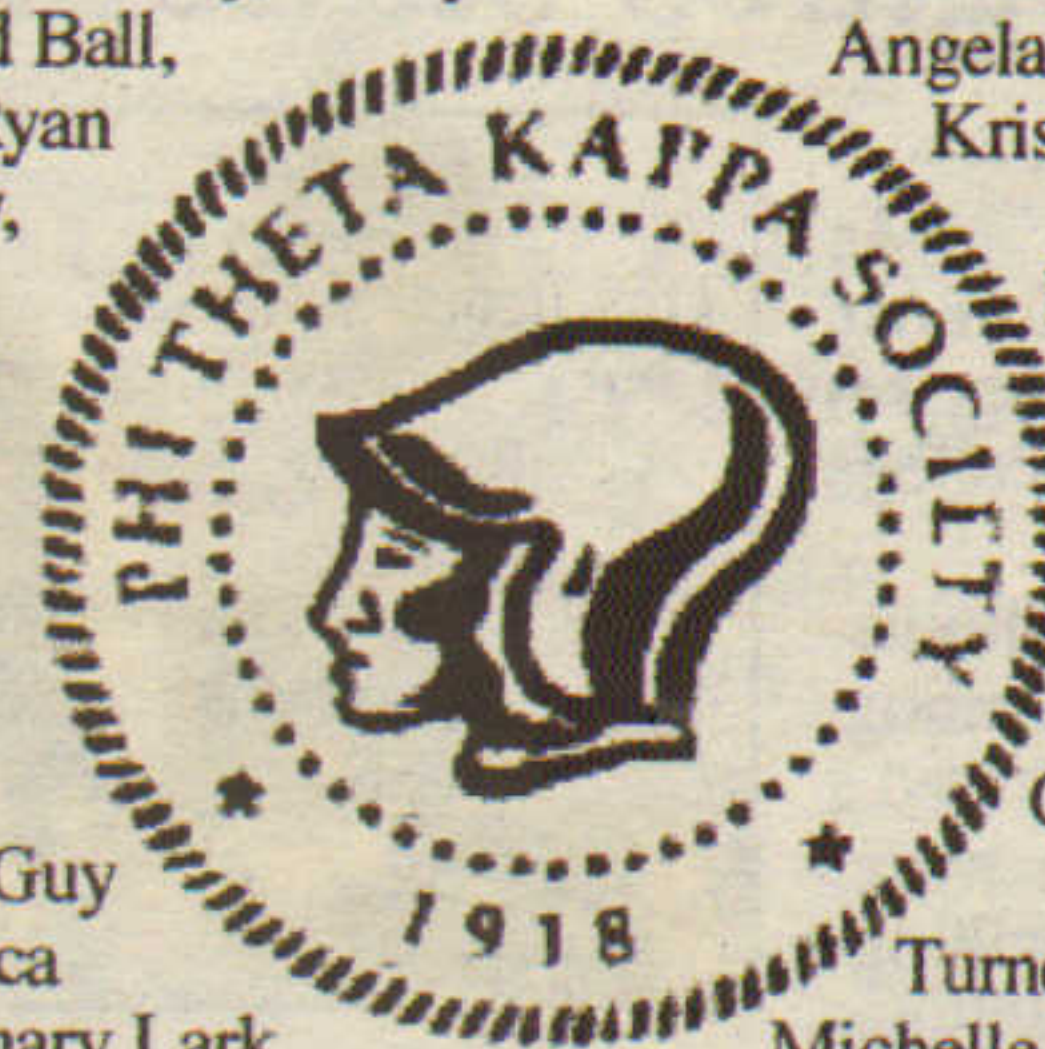
current events at our website at <http://www.faculty.shelton.cc.al.us/~hlee/>.

Members can sign up for upcoming service projects and events in the Phi Theta Kappa events notebook in the dean of students office.

## Phi Theta Kappa Spring Inductees

Ingetraut Archer, Trey Scott Awtry, Emily Michelle Bain, Dusty Edward Ball, Barbie Louise Batey, Jeffry Ryan Beams, Justin Matthew Berry, Rochelle Nadia Bidlofsky, Marcus Wayne Brown, Judy Burt Cearlock, Jessica Marie Christian, Jack Cousette, Russell Jacob Crowe, Heather Lynn Curry, Nathan Ray Dains, Lauren Michelle Dyer, Tausha Megale Fields, Guy Joseph Gusmus, Betsy Rebecca Haas, Laura Lea Herren, Zachary Lark Hill, Jennifer Huggins, Donald Leon Hurst,

Erin Elizabeth Johnson, Tera Marta Kelley, Angela D. Kidd, Jada Nicole Lee, Kristina Lee, Albert G. Lee, Brittany Lee Long, Haley S. McCracken, Gary Allen Parker, Sarah F. Penn, Erika Faith Pierce, Thomas Poole Ryan, Theresa Randolph, Lori Beth Richardson, Tara Denise Robinson, Raven Marie Rose, Chandler M. Smith, Chris Adam Tooley, Julia Hollyhand Turner, Amanda M. Weaver, Michelle L. Williamson and Hope Asangah Fonbah



  
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**The Shelton State  
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*Wednesday, April 23  
11:00 a.m.  
Martin Campus  
Lunch to follow*

## Shelton State Courier

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**Amy P. Oswalt**  
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**Amy P. Oswalt and**  
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**T**he Shelton State Courier is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic

freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The Courier is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.





Photos by Courier Staff

## Another great fair

The Wellness Center was a beehive of activity on April 2 when vendors gathered to provide students with information on health issues. Clockwise from left, Gary Shores (L) and Coach Clem Gryska visited from the Bryant Museum. Cindy Wyatt gets a massage during the fair. Students lined up to collect health information.



## Keep Looking Up!

By Dr. Lee Albritton

With the strong winds of spring, it is a perfect time to head to the park and fly a kite.

The nighttime sky is ready for your kite flying as well, for one of the spring constellations is commonly referred to as a kite but is officially called Bootes.

The stars of this constellation form a large diamond shape like the kite that some flew as a child.

All of the stars are bright, but the brightest — Arcturus — is located at the very bottom of the kite.

The key to locating the kite is to find this bright star that is coming up in the east shortly after sunset.

Simply find the Big Dipper and follow the curve



of the handle away from the bowl, and it will lead to Arcturus.

The kite is on its side with this bright star at its southern end.

Most constellations get their names from ancient astronomers — Greeks, Babylonians and Egyptians.

When the ancient astronomers looked at the stars of our modern day kite, they saw a person that tends to flock of animals — a herdsman and named the constellation Bootes who in Greek mythology was the son of Zeus and Callisto.

Keep looking up, take a walk on one of our nice spring nights, and locate your very own kite in the sky — the constellation Bootes.

**Undecided on a major? Do you like helping others?**

If you answered yes to either of these questions, then visit the atrium on April 15 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

University of Alabama School of Social Work representatives will be there to talk to prospective students and answer any questions about the transfer process.

## Fair

From Page 1

Whatley Health Center, a community clinic.

Whatley representative Porsha Ray said the health fair is a good way to get important health information out to the community.

"This health fair is so wonderful because it gives us an opportunity to get important information to the community.

This is information that can possibly save lives," she said.

## Chimes

From Page 1

Carillon instruments with fully automatic operation run the chimes. The clock will be controlled by a master clock system inside the school.

You might be wondering why Shelton State has taken the time and money to make the campus more attractive. The answer is quite simple. Recent studies show that the location and appearance of the campus are powerful factors both in student recruitment and development success. An attractive campus, well groomed grounds, and well maintained buildings greatly enhance the impressions community members and potential donors have of the college.

Lew Drummond, executive director of the Shelton State

Community College Foundation, agrees that improving the grounds and the school has made a difference in the way Shelton State is perceived. "The facilities all of the sudden made a statement that this is a college. We were at the old Skyland Campus in less than collegiate environments. We had good instructors and leadership, but the packaging of our project left a lot to be desired. Now we have the packaging to promote our school better, and it makes a statement."

So whether you have seen every brick laid on the tower, or you see it for the first time on April 23 when it is dedicated, students may be proud to know that they are part of a college dedicated to excellence and constant improvement.

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# Lady Bucs reach midway season

By Kim West  
Staff Writer

With spring break completed, the Shelton State softball team is nearing the halfway point of its season.

As of March 21, the Lady Bucs compiled a 12-6 record, which included a seven-game win streak.

Three Shelton State players are among the Division II North leaders in nearly every hitting category.

Amy Busing is the team's offensive leader. The sophomore rightfielder is hitting .463 and leads the league in runs batted in and doubles.

Shortstop Cara Roberts (.366 batting average) and leftfielder Crystal Roberts (.326) are also among the division's top hitters.



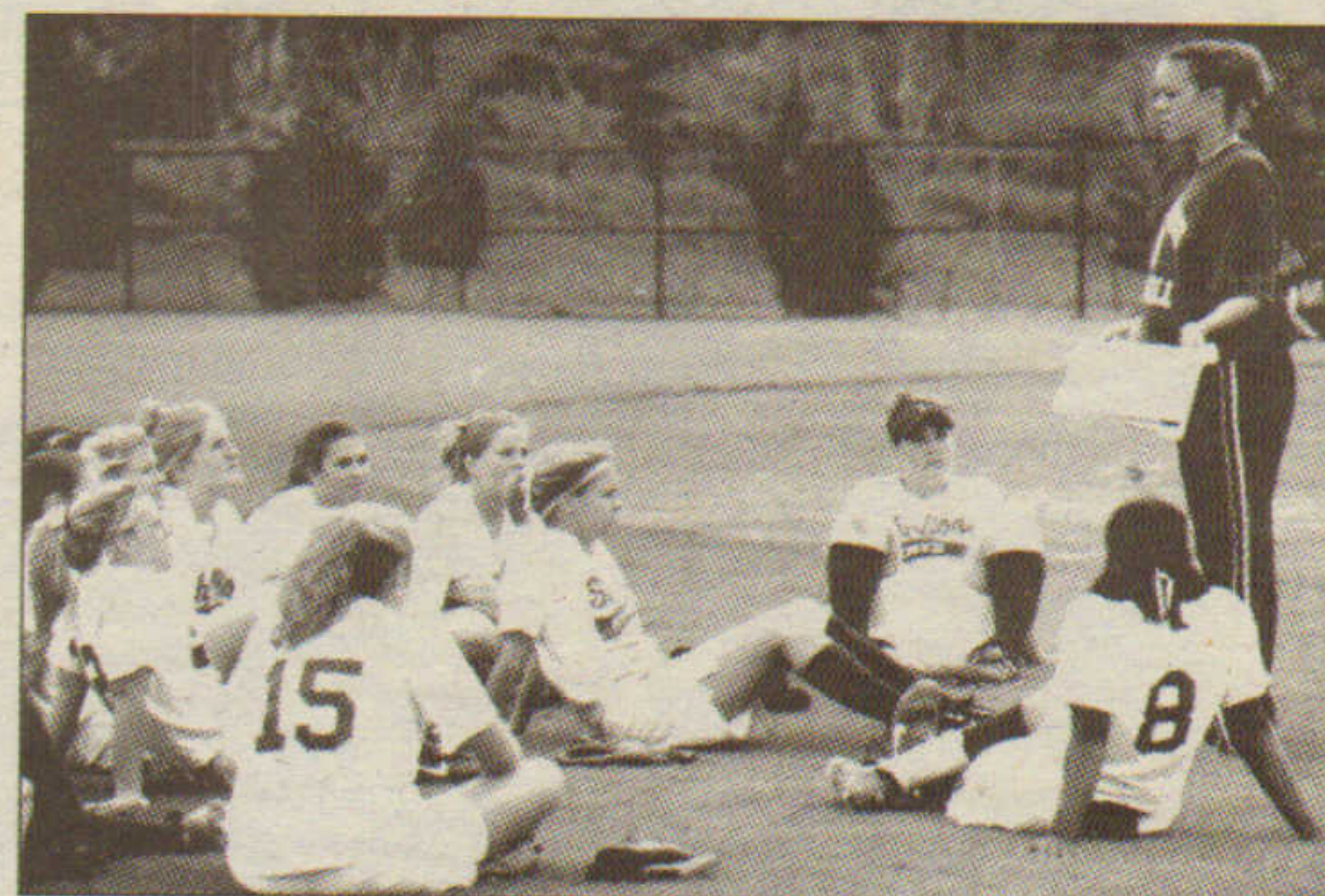
Shelton State also has the league's best defense, with a sparkling .941 team fielding percentage and the two leading pitchers, freshman Rebecca Tweedy (1.15 earned run average, 32 strikeouts) and sophomore Sara Winton (1.67, 32).

After the break, the Lady Bucs have just ten more games, including six at home, before the state tournament on May 1-3.

Shelton State has a good chance of overtaking both Jeff State and Northwest-Shoals for the No. 1 seed headed into the tournament, since the Lady Bucs have already met both teams twice this season.

The Lady Bucs' next home game is April 18, when they face Meridian at 1 p.m. Admission is free to students.

The Lady Bucs will compete against Beville State on April 16, Meridian on April 18, the University of Mobile on April 20, Southern Union on April 24 and Gadsden State on April 25.



Photos by Jason Collins

Above, Coach Melissa Bautista talks to the Lady Bucs after a game. Left, Sophomore Cara Roberts makes a play.

## Upcoming Lady Bucs games

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Beville State        | April 16 |
| Meridian             | April 18 |
| University of Mobile | April 20 |



Photo by Jason Collins

The Shelton State Buccaneers take some time to discuss game strategy during a recent home Buccaneer game. The Bucs' next home game is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16 at 2 p.m. against East Mississippi.

## BUSINESS AND BROCCOLI:

conducting business over a meal

As a service to students, alumni and the West Alabama Community, the Shelton State Alumni Association will host Business and Broccoli, a fully interactive program which will offer participants guidelines on the etiquette of conducting business over a meal.

Virginia Johnson, a frequent presenter on etiquette in the business world, will share insight on such topics as how to order, who is expected to pay, and which meal is the best for the type of business you are conducting. Participants will then have the opportunity to practice these new skills during a light buffet dinner.

Cost is just \$10 including the meal.

**Thursday, May 1, 2003  
6:00 p.m.**

Shelton State Community College  
Martin Campus, Room 1944  
9500 Old Greensboro Road

Space is limited, so please call Ronda Shirley at 205/391-2252 to reserve your place with payment before Wednesday, April 23

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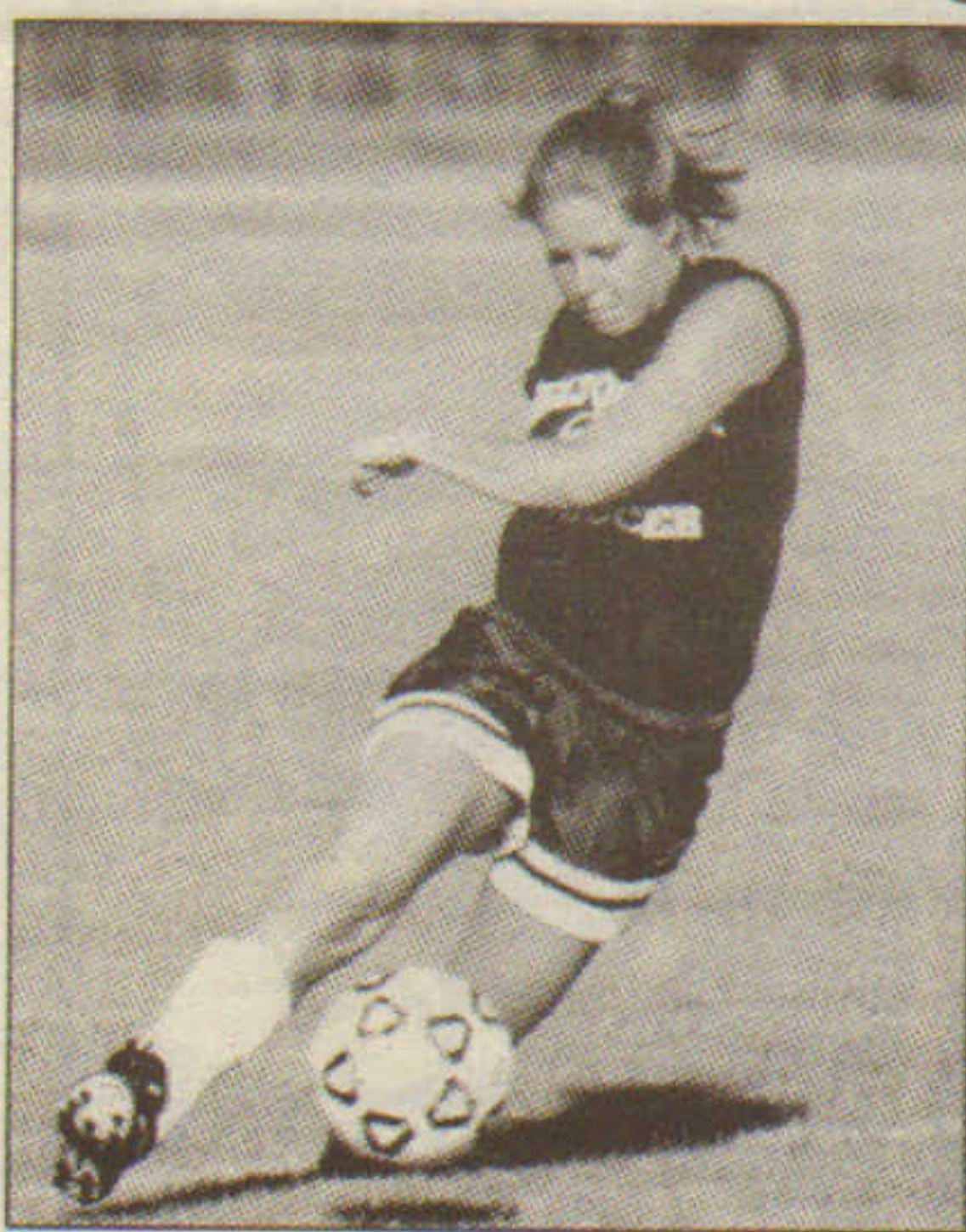
**SUMMER AT SHELTON STATE**





Photos by Jason Collins

## Achieving goals



The Lady Bucs soccer team eagerly took to the field for their spring season recently. The Bucs scrimmaged other colleges and universities during the season.

Above, Freshman Megan Young scores a goal. Left, Freshman Stephanie Stams brings the ball down the field.

## New 15th Street shop finds golf niche

By Adam Cox  
Staff Writer

Golfers in Tuscaloosa should know about a golf shop that has, or will find almost any new or used pro-line golf club that a beginner or even advanced golfer could want. At 23, Luke Cox is probably one of the youngest business owners in Tuscaloosa. He started his own business, Alabama Discount Golf, in June of 2002.

The shop is located on 15th Street across from Hardee's. Cox played golf in high school and majored in business at the University of Alabama. These two key factors lead him to start his own golf business.

"I learned to broaden my horizons on customer service, and to focus on a specific target market while attending the University," said Cox. What has made him a successful young entrepreneur in the golf business is the careful planning he undertook before opening, having a product unique to the market, and hard work.

"I had been planning for the store's opening for about six months prior to the actual grand opening," said Cox.

Planning involved surveying the need of the golf community in Tuscaloosa for another shop, scouting for the perfect location, lots of number crunching, and persuasion from friends.

All off these factors played a role in his decision to open his shop. Cox's store offers a commodity that is rare in Tuscaloosa. Not only does he sell new pro-line golf equipment; he also has a wide variety of used goods at his store. From Callaway irons to Taylor

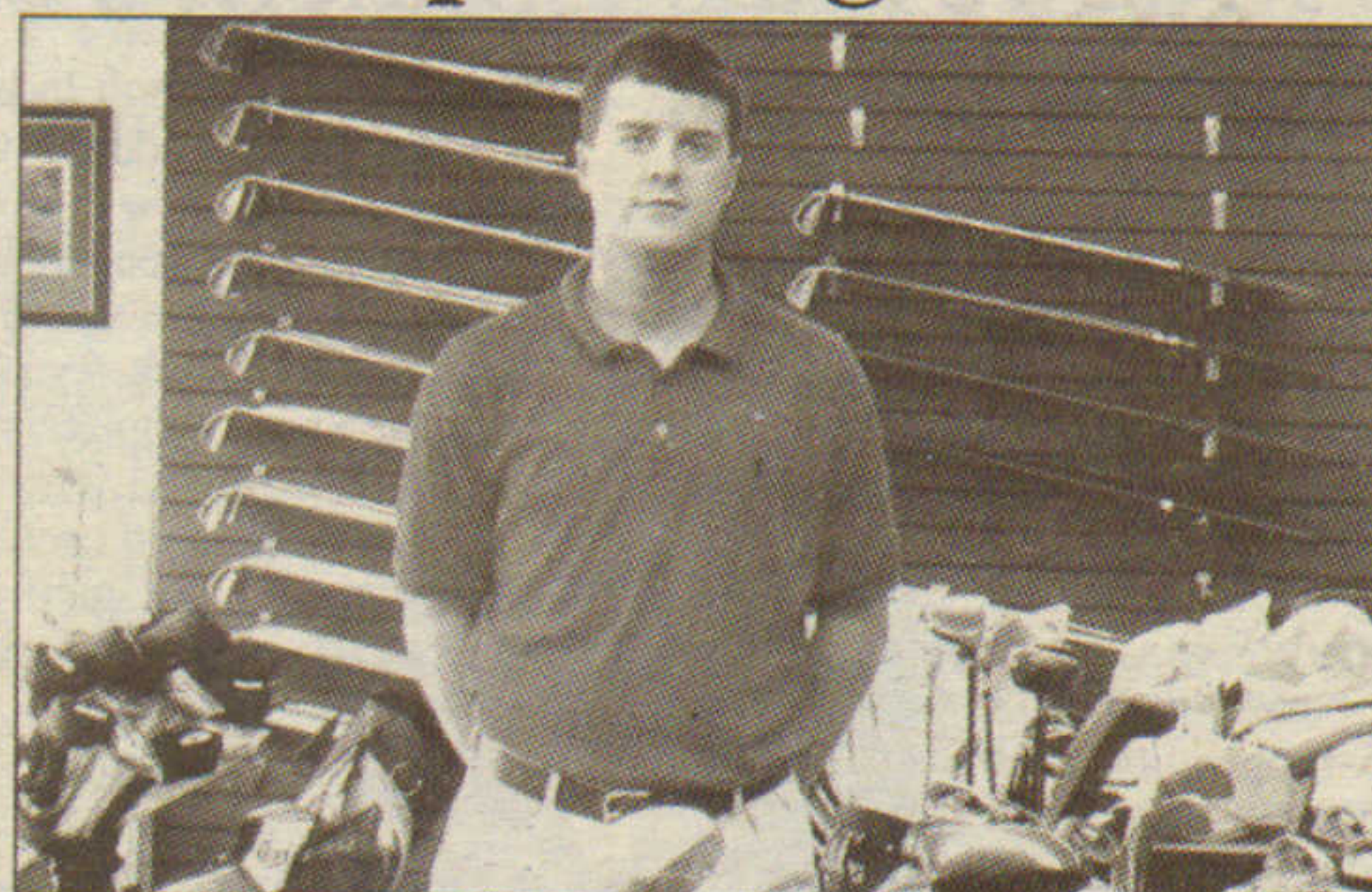


Photo by Amy P. Oswalt

Luke Cox stands among golf equipment in his store, Alabama Discount Golf, located on 15th Street. Cox started his own business June 2002.

Made drivers, Ping putters to Cleveland wedges; he has an impressive stock of used clubs in the store.

For the golfer who is looking for a good club, but doesn't have a pile of cash to spend on a new one, Cox can set him up with a very good used club for a cheaper price. Cox also takes trades from his customers.

A customer can bring a used pro-line golf club into the shop, and Cox will give the customer credit for the club on store merchandise.

For the future entrepreneurs out there, Cox said there is a lot of hard work ahead.

"Be prepared to work very long hours and totally dedicate yourself to the goal of the business or you probably will have a hard time in the business world," Cox said.

"There are so many things that pop up that you (the owner) must deal with. Every day new challenges arise and each requires its own unique solution. One must find a way

not to get burned out, but at the same time keep pace with the goals that you set. Lastly, don't rush into deciding to open. Very detailed planning is very important! And remember location, location, location."

Cox has a lot in store for him in the future. When asked what his plans were for expanding his golf business, he responded, "I am not sure if I will open golf stores in other cities, or if I will try another different kind of business in Tuscaloosa."

He seemed pretty determined to expand no matter which direction he chooses. At the moment he is looking to relocate his shop to another area because of the growing amount of equipment in his store.

He said that he will first focus on his shop's expansion, and if other projects become available, he will approach them with the same amount of careful consideration that he did for his golf shop.

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## 8 Mile reveals Eminem's secret

By Chris McNac  
Staff Writer

When combining the roots of hip-hop fame with intentions of selling it to a mainstream audience, a director cannot assume universal comprehension of underlying, yet key emotional elements.

*8 Mile* is a dark urban drama, loosely based on the life of rapper and star Eminem, about the boundary street of 8 Mile Road dividing Detroit's poorer and largely black-populated society from the richer suburbs.

The movie has a consistent overall plot with a gritty attention to detail, which, had it not been for Eminem's unexplained major internal conflict, would've resulted in a fantastic acting debut for the rapper.

Interestingly, Eminem personally describes and details the internal struggle his character was going through on the special features portion of the DVD.

This conflict is first seen at the beginning of the movie when Eminem gets apparent stage fright during a free-styling battle at the Shelter, a local club frequented by rap enthusiasts.

While some audiences may not understand the idea behind free-styling, the art of being able to rap without forethought of what you're about to say, the reason Eminem leaves the stage without performing is ultimately the most important concept viewers must grasp.

Unfortunately, storywriters leave that detail out of the movie and assume people who watch it automatically realize the importance behind Eminem walking off stage.

At the Shelter, every rapper who free-styles has a reputation to build for acceptance and respect, but if you can't match up to your competition,

there's a long, tough ladder to climb to even be considered worthy anymore.

It goes a bit deeper, however, for Eminem being the white minority in the typically black social gathering; but instead of completely developing the star's conflict, writers chose to throw in useless scenes of his ex-girlfriend doing everything except adding to the plot.

Eminem's home life, where he lives in a trailer with his younger sister, his drunken mother and her abusive boyfriend, can easily be understood as a reason for his anger.

His best friend, Future, seeing a talent in Eminem, constantly urges him to enter the weekly rap face-off at the Shelter, but to no avail.

It isn't until Eminem, by chance, meets Alex, a young woman who seems particularly drawn to the rapper that he starts to strive.

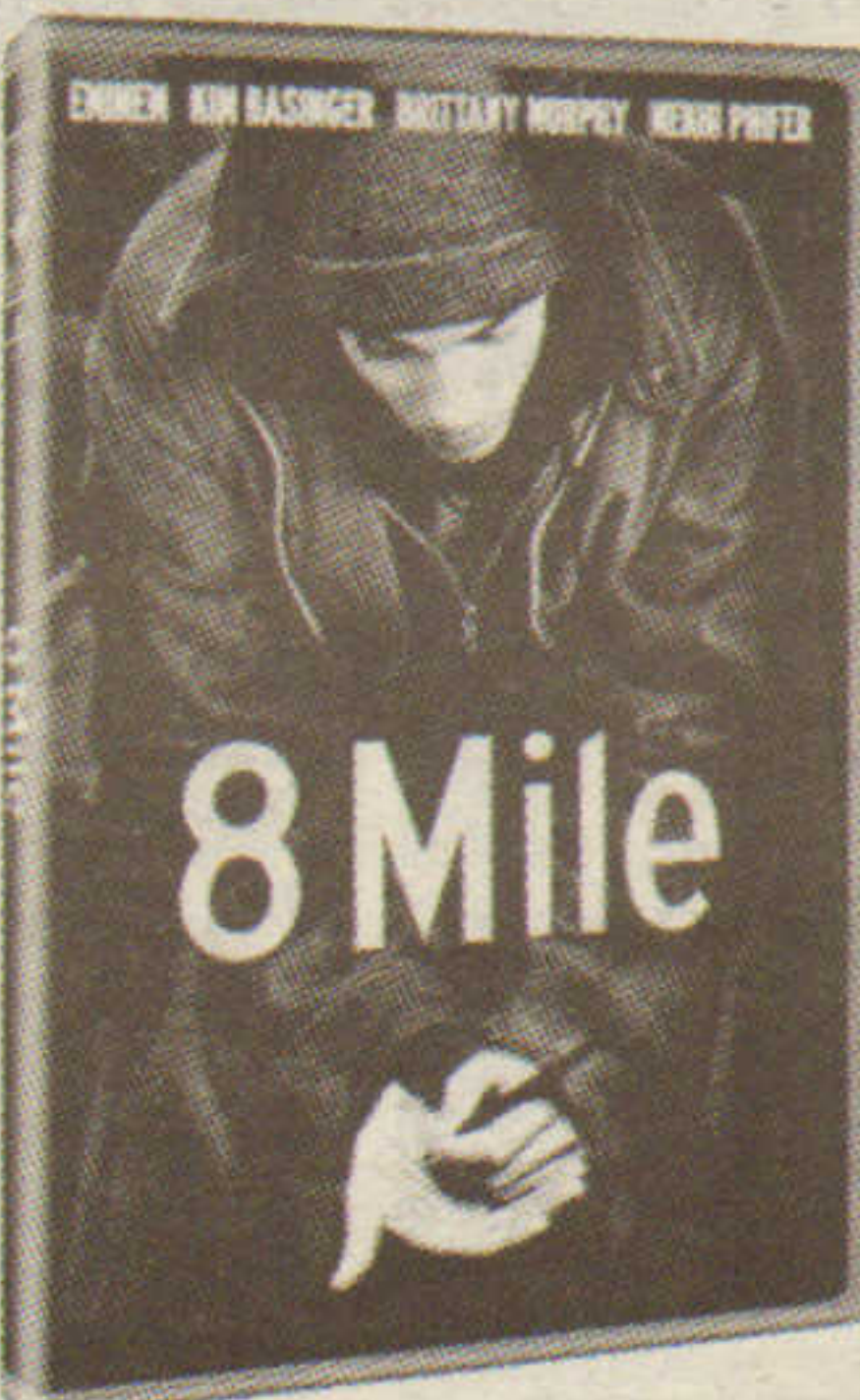
The two become closer and add another useless scene to the movie during their meaningless romp in the factory where he works.

However, aside from physical gratification, Alex is able to inspire Eminem to take the next step with his life and career by providing support and hope that things can get better.

While they never develop past a friendship, tedious at times with unfounded conflicts, Eminem gains the confidence he needs to go back on stage and face the adversity of a rival group who see him as inferior.

Ultimately, and to no surprise, Eminem wins the final free-styling duel and earns the public respect he thrived in privately amongst his friends.

The movie has a choppy sense of direction, complete with underdeveloped plots and scenes that go nowhere, but overall, the harsh portrayal of the race and status divisions in the rap underworld make the road of *8 Mile* a vivid scenic route worth taking.



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# Two kinds of undecided: the procrastinators and the clueless

By Marc Hollingsworth  
Staff Writer

Ask a group of kindergartners what they want to be when they grow up and you will get an answer without hesitation. However, if you ask the same question to a group of college freshmen, they probably couldn't tell you the answer.

Many students who come to Shelton are undecided on their majors. Holly Elliot, Shelton State coordinator of counselors, estimated that 40 percent of the students that come to Shelton are undecided.

However, she said there are two types of undecided students. One is the student that is researching and exploring several options and simply hasn't narrowed it down yet. The second type is the students who hasn't researched or even thought about the future.

The big question is, why are so many students undecided about their majors?

Most colleges do not require students to declare a major until their sophomore year. But, as a two-year college like Shelton, this could be risky business.

By not knowing exactly what major is being pursued, the college years can easily be prolonged. After the general curriculum is finished, many students try to narrow their choices by process of elimination. They may have wasted two or more semesters searching for their interests, thus pushing their graduation date back.

"Today it takes the average student five to six years to get a four-year degree," Elliot said. "However, these so-called wasted years could make

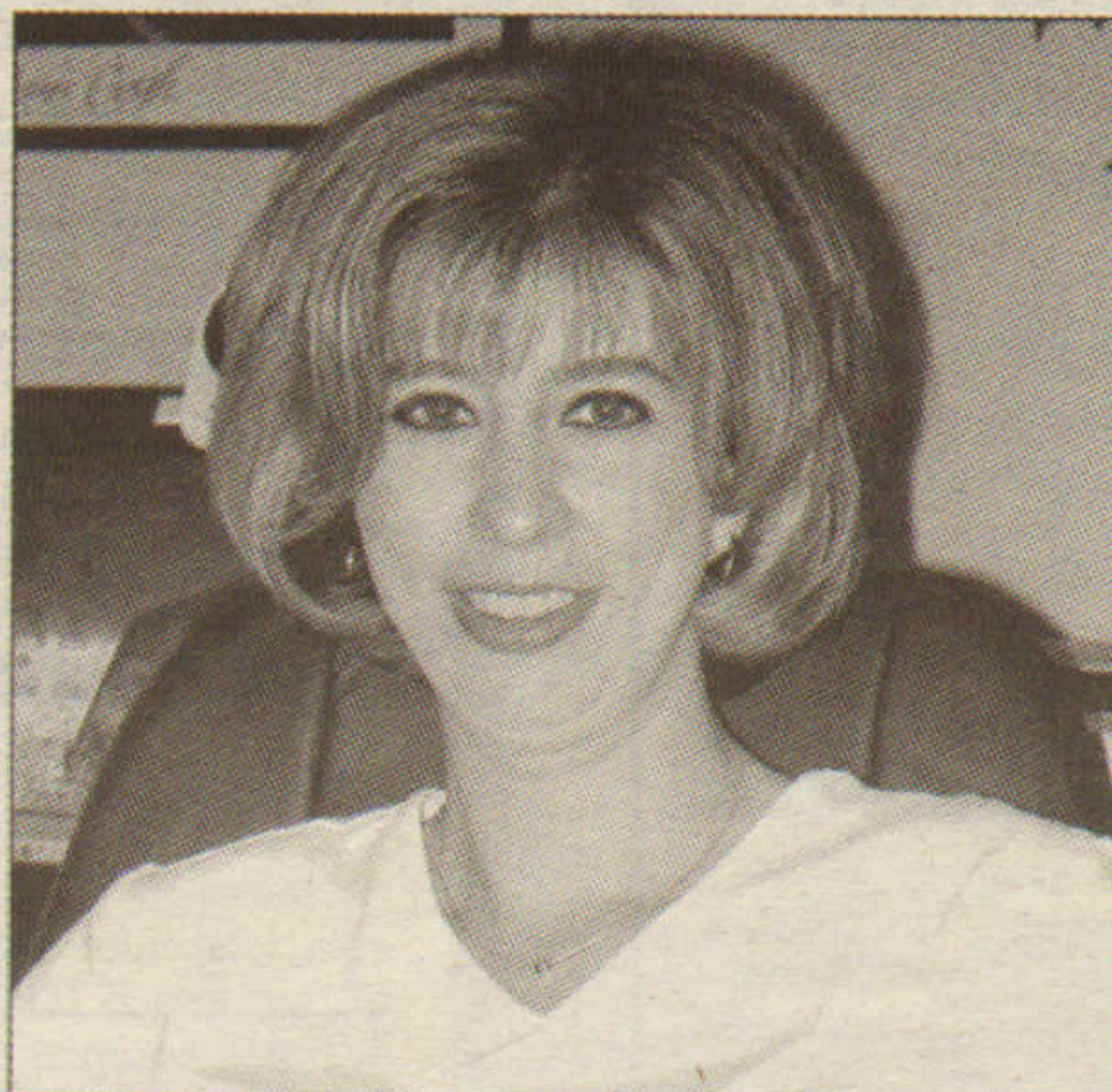


Photo by Courier Staff

Holly Elliot, Shelton State coordinator of counselors, helps students decide on their majors.

students happier once they start their careers."

Elliot said that many college students lack research, work experience and time management skills, and they really don't know what they're doing. "Most don't realize the importance of the decision until they get out of high school," Elliot said. "Students simply don't know what motivates them or

what their interests are."

Now the question is, what can be done to help the students choose a major that suits their personality?

During students' freshmen year, at Shelton, they are required to take an orientation to college class. In this class, they are given a Shelton State catalog that lists every major available at Shelton and its required courses.

The students are also required to research one or two careers on the Occupational Outlook Handout website. This site, provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, includes just about everything, from earnings to working conditions, on jobs across America.

Still with all this help, many students are not quite sure of their major.

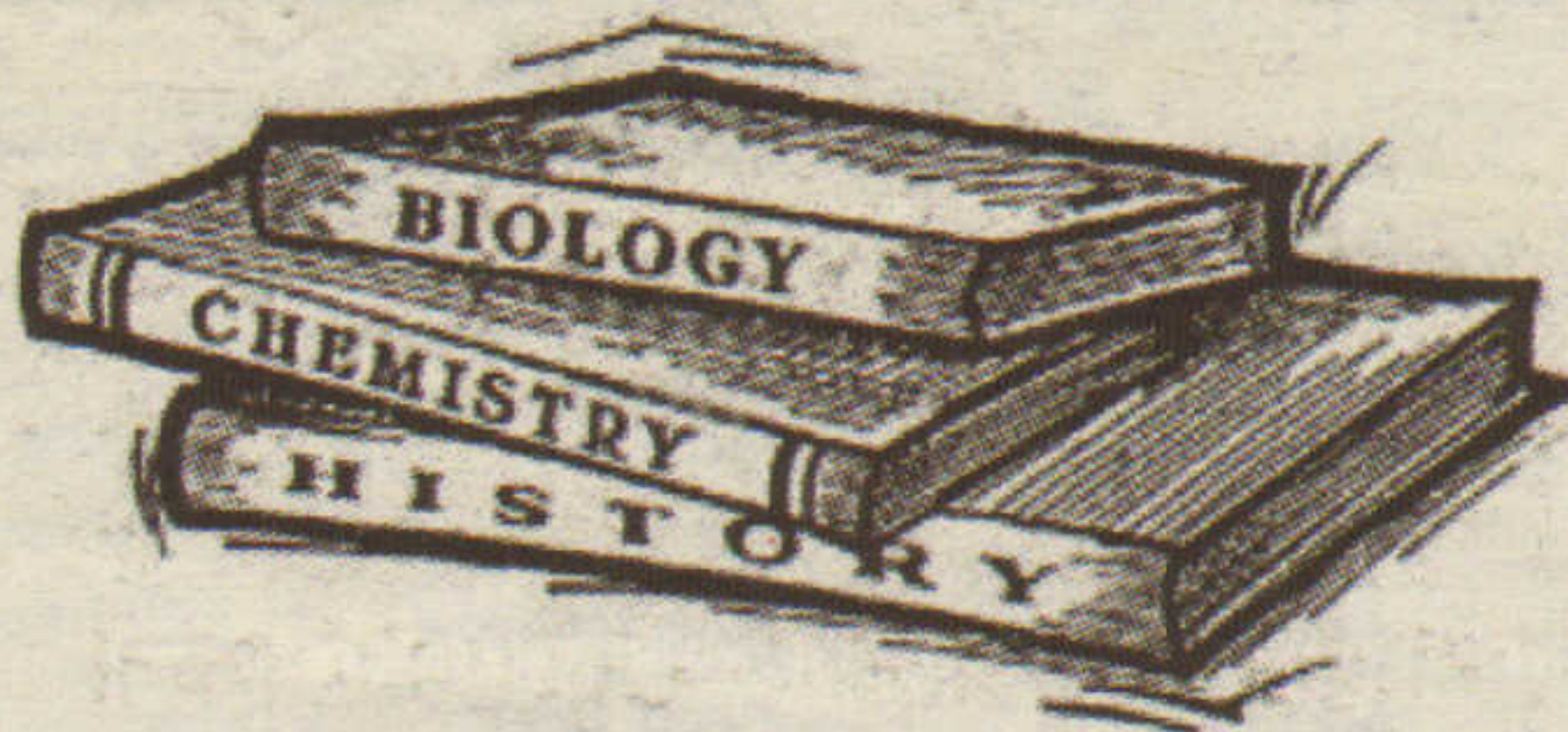
For these students, Elliot suggests work experience, internships, volunteer work or at least asking professionals questions about their field of work. "These experiences can really help the majority of the undecided students narrow their options," said Elliot.

The counselor's office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

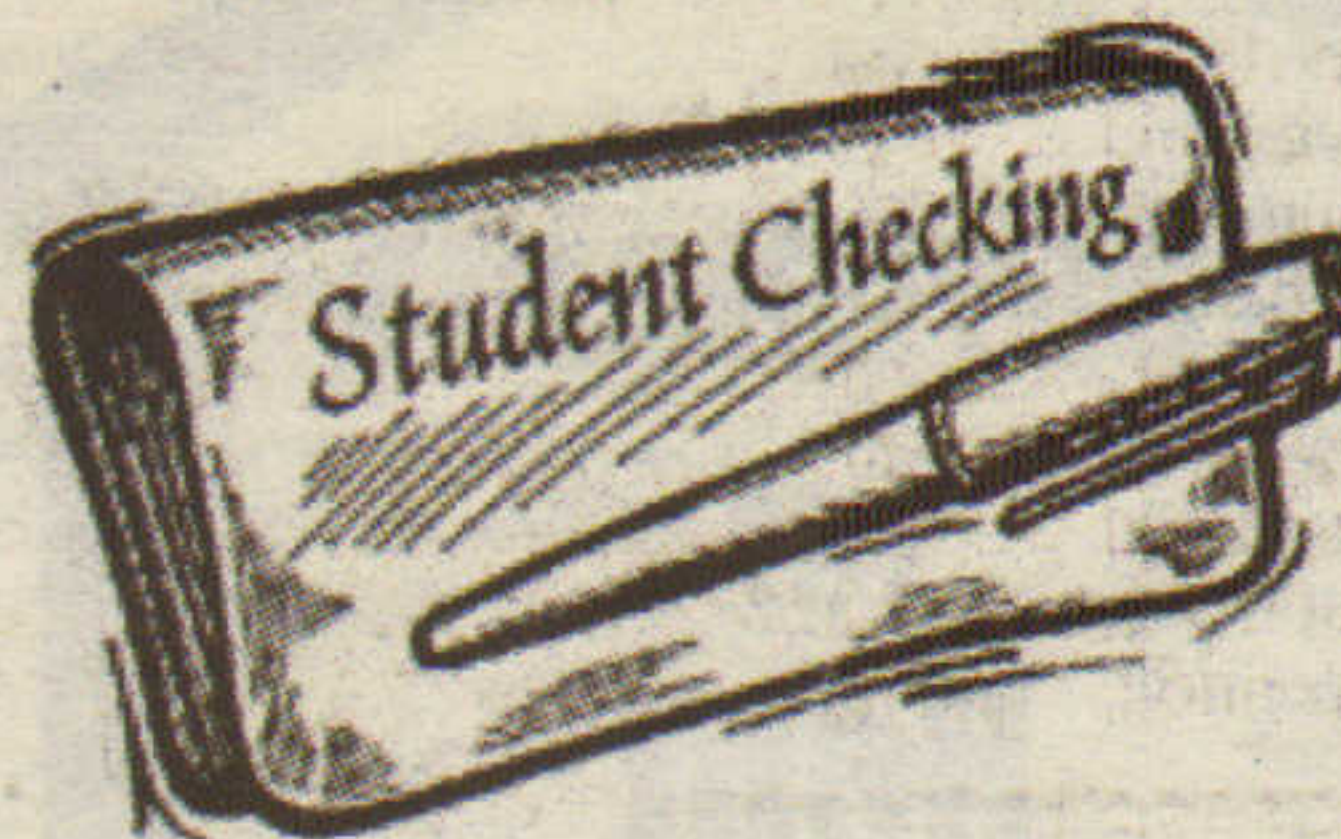
"There is always someone here to talk and help you," Elliot said. However, it would benefit the student and the counselor if the students have the answers to these: What are your strengths and weaknesses? What courses do you like or dislike? What are your hobbies and interests? What do you not want to do?

The answers to these questions can be establish a foundation for your personal requirements for your major. Thus, the perfect starting point for the rest of your life.

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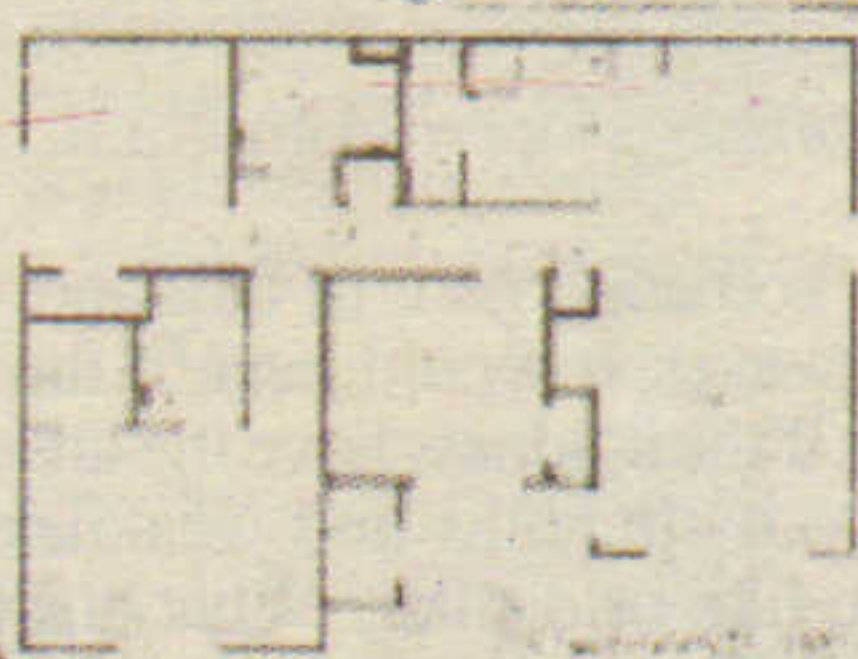
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Units Underconstruction

## PALISADES

### Apartment Homes



72 NEW  
3 bedroom/2 Baths  
Starting at \$225



- 1, 2, & 3 Bedroom Luxury Townhomes
- Free Tanning Beds
- Clubhouse
- Exercise Room & Pool
- Monitored Security System
- Gas Log Fireplaces
- French Doors to Private Balcony & Private Patio
- Fully Equipped Kitchens with built-in Microwaves, Dishwashers & Disposals
- Spacious Walk in-Closets
- Friendly, Responsive Staff
- 24 hour Emergency maintenance
- Special Extra Tall 9 Foot Ceilings

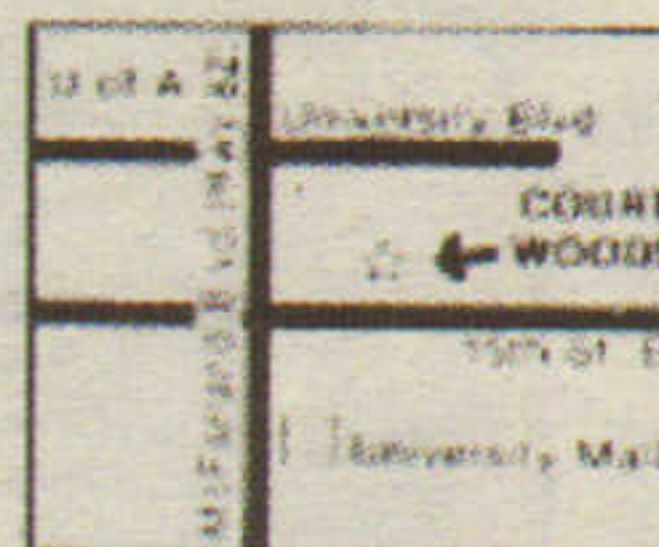
3201 Hargrove Road East  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405  
Call 205-554-1977

## COURT WOODS

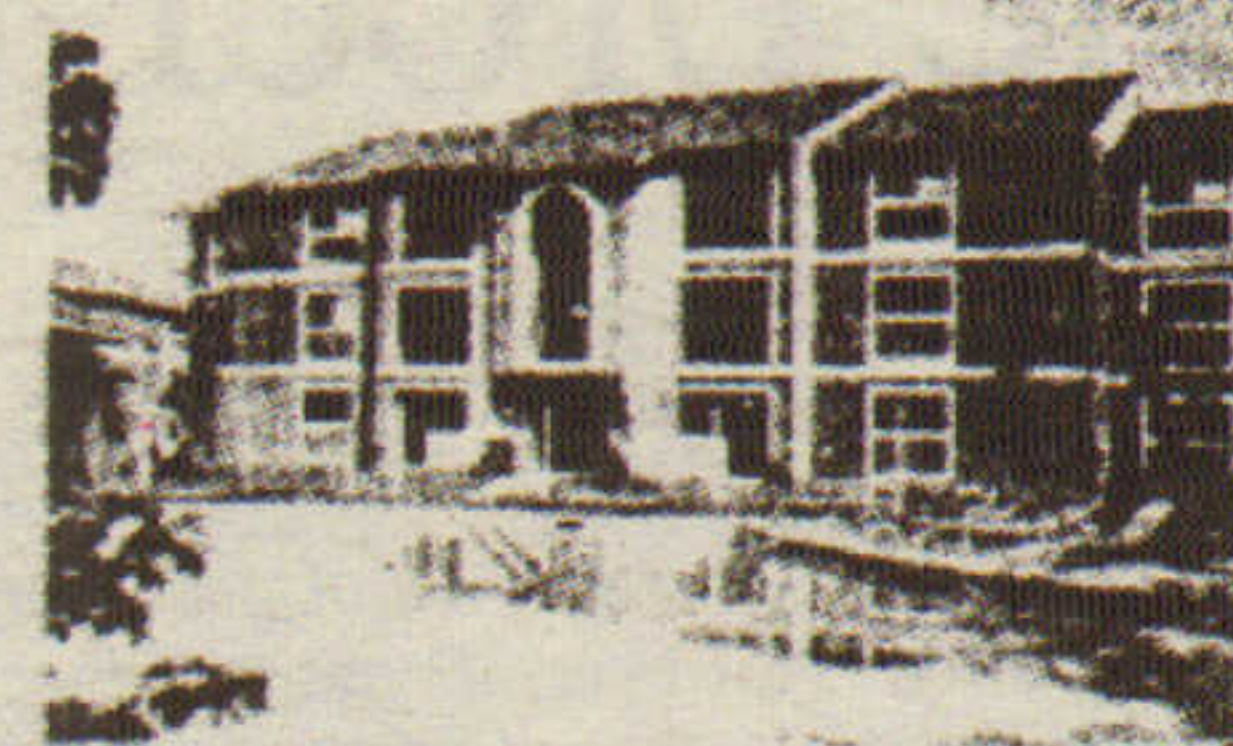
APARTMENTS

### Great For Roommates!

Oversized bedrooms  
Two full baths  
Pool with large sun deck  
Near University Mall



Good Cents



Convenient to Everything!  
**COURT WOODS APARTMENTS**  
1600 15th Street East • Tuscaloosa, AL 35403  
(205) 556-6200

**Palisades  
Court Woods**  
 **DELVIEW**  
Properties

**WANTED:**  
**Shelton Students**



**DELVIEW**  
Properties, LLC

711-17th Street  
Rental Office behind Central High  
Call 345-4600

**Student Housing**  
**Call 345-4600**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

What are you looking for? \_\_\_\_\_

When do you need it? \_\_\_\_\_

To receive information, please place a check in space next to properties listed.

#### Tuscaloosa

##### Complexes

☐ Alabama  
☐ Albright  
☐ Ashbury  
☐ Alford  
☐ Camelot  
☐ Claymont  
☐ Courtwoods  
☐ East Park  
☐ Merrimac Arms

☐ Palisades  
☐ Patio  
☐ Pine Meadow  
☐ Reed Street  
☐ Rivercliff  
☐ Tavern House  
☐ University Place  
☐ Waterbank  
☐ Willowchase

##### Houses:

☐ One Bedroom  
☐ Two Bedroom  
☐ Three or more  
  
☐ Huntsville  
☐ Laurelwood  
☐ Auburn  
☐ Chateau  
☐ Lemans Square

Mail form to us or come get to know us at:

Delview Properties, LLC, 711-17th Street, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Fax Form to 205-345-4648 - Call us at 205-345-4600

E-mail: gingeru@earthlink.net